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Letter dated 18 October 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a communication from Mr. Aleksandr Lukashenko, President of the Republic of Belarus, addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sergei **Ling**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus
to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 18 October 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The President of the Republic of Belarus

Minsk, 8 October 2001

The Republic of Belarus welcomes the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1373 (2001) on combating terrorism. We fully and unconditionally support that decision and consider the measures set forth in the resolution to be exceptionally important and timely.

International terrorism is a terrible evil. It has to be dealt with firmly and consistently. However, terrorism cannot be overcome merely through the use of force, particularly on a unilateral basis. What is required is integrated and coordinated action by the entire world community.

The Republic of Belarus has always had high regard for the activities of the United Nations in addressing the problems of international terrorism. Under the new circumstances, the role of the United Nations in bringing together the efforts of all States to combat terrorism has significantly grown. It is only through the utilization of the unique potential of the United Nations, particularly in eradicating the conditions that give rise to and support terrorism, that tangible success in that effort can be achieved. We consider that the United Nations should play the central role in devising the strategy and tactics of the international community for counteracting terrorism.

Many of the provisions of the resolution have long been put into practice by State bodies in the Republic of Belarus.

On my instructions, a careful check is being carried out in the banking institutions of the country to identify any financial assets or other resources belonging to persons or organizations that might be directly or indirectly linked to terrorist activity. In the event that any such resources or assets are discovered, they will be immediately frozen.

A special meeting of the Security Council of the Republic of Belarus will be held in the next few days in order to devise a set of additional measures to combat terrorism.

The fact that Belarus has acceded to and ratified most of the 12 United Nations anti-terrorist conventions and its active participation in all United Nations bodies that are addressing that problem are evidence of the consistent policy followed by the Republic of Belarus.

The Republic of Belarus is actively cooperating with interested States, and is willing to expand its collaboration, in exchanging information that may be conducive to the prevention and suppression of terrorist acts.

I trust that, through its joint efforts, the world community will be able to achieve tangible results in combating this new and dangerous threat to civilization.

(*Signed*) Aleksandr **Lukashenko**